

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

Kindly amend the specification as follows:

At page 12, in the paragraph beginning at line 10, remove "a" as follows:

A1  
Figure 3 is a detailed [[a]] flow diagram illustrating the generation and use of a random identifier code within a wireless communications system in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention. The method may begin by resetting 305 a counter associated with a transmitter-receiver pair of the communication system. In one embodiment, the counter is multifunction N-bit timer included in a MCU (or equivalent processing environment) of the transmitter. For example, the timer may be a 16-bit timer included in the MCU design. Alternatively, the timer can be external to the processing environment.

At page 12, in the paragraph beginning at line 18, add "the" as follows:

A2  
The method also includes commencing 310 the loading of an RC circuit associated with the transmitter-receiver pair. In one embodiment, this RC circuit is coupled to an I/O port of the MCU or processing environment of the transmitter. The I/O port can be set to a low voltage state thereby causing the RC circuit to unload or discharge (e.g., to the ground potential). Conversely, the I/O port can be set to a high impedance state thereby causing the RC circuit to load or charge (e.g., to a supply potential such as Vcc). The state of the I/O port can be controlled, for instance, by a software routine running in the MCU or by hardware such a switch. This commencing 310 of loading the RC circuit can be preceded by the unloading of the RC circuit to establish timing and voltage references. For example,  $t_0$  can be defined at the point when the RC load voltage is at approximately 0 volts.

At page 17, in line 2 of the paragraph beginning at page 16 line 19, remove "time" as follows:

A3  
conf  
For example, and with reference to the embodiment shown, a program stored in the ROM of MCU 405 might perform the following process. A primary code generating event such as power

A3  
Concl

up (or other primary code generating event) can be used to initiate the process. Responsive to that code generating event occurring, commanding I/O port 1 from a high impedance state to a low voltage state. As such, capacitor 420 unloads (discharges) through resistor 410 to the virtual ground created by the low voltage state. The time constant of the discharge **[[time]]** is approximately equal to the product of resistor 410 and capacitor 420. For discussion purposes, assume the following values: resistor 415 equals 1 Megaohm, resistor 410 equals 470 ohms and capacitor 420 equals 220 nanofarads. The time constant of the discharge would therefore be approximately 103.4 microseconds. While capacitor 420 is discharging, the program running in MCU can employ a delay routine that is slightly longer than the discharge time (e.g., 150 microseconds) to ensure that virtual ground is reached.

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At page 17, in the paragraph beginning at line 9, also add "the" and remove "times" as follows:

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A4

Once virtual ground is reached, the process running on MCU 405 can continue with resetting and starting the N-bit timer. However, the timer need not be reset. The process further includes commanding I/O port 1 from a low voltage state to a high impedance state. As such, capacitor 420 loads (charges) through resistor 415 towards  $V_{CC}$ . Given the above component values, the time constant to charge from virtual ground (e.g., at  $t_0$ ) to  $V_{CC}$  would be equal to the product of resistor 415 and capacitor 420, about 220 milliseconds. Those skilled in the art understand that the component values of the RC circuit depend on a number of factors including the desired time constants affecting both the charge and the discharge **[[times]]**. The example values given, therefore, are not intended to limit the scope of the present invention.